Drowning in Debt? Reach Out!



BETRAYED TRUST PARISHIONERS STUNG BY LAHEY'S GUILTY PLEA {page 3}



GAGA CANUCK GETS A SHOT TO WORK WITH HER (page 16)



Weekend, May 6-8, 2011 www.metronews.ca



News worth sharin



In pursuit of sustainable education

Moose get their man

Halifax to name Dominique Ducharme new head coach Friday, Metro has learned



The Halifax Mooseheads are turning to Dominique Ducharme to lead them out of their lengthy rebuilding process.

The Mooseheads are expected to name the 38-year-old their newest head coach at a press conference on Friday at noon at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, Metro has learned.

Ducharme, an assistant coach with the Montreal Juniors for the past three seasons, is considered one of the QMJHL's brightest young coaching prospects.

Majority owner Bobby Smith, who created the vacancy when he stepped down as head coach last month, would not confirm who he has hired.

"We're really excited and I'll leave the rest for the press conference," was all Smith would offer when reached Thursday.

Ducharme built his reputation



while coaching his hometown Joliette Action in the Quebec junior AAA ranks, winning league championships in 2006 and 2007. He was also head coach of Team Quebec at the 2011 world under-17 challenge.

Ducharme was a high-scoring NCAA centre at the University of Vermont during his playing career from 1991 to 1995, recording 149 points in 130 games.

The Mooseheads finished 15th among 18 teams in the QMJHL this past season, going 20-43-2-3.

For coverage of Friday's press conference, follow Ametroqfiles on Twitter and visit metronews.ca/halifax



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news



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Cirque du soleil founder Guy Laliberte says Michael Jackson was a fan, and they will honour him with a new show. Video at metronews.ca



A blueprint for education

- More in-depth study required before any schools closed, says Levin
- Province will respond to report in the fall; asking public for feedback





A report on Nova Scotia's education system recommends closing some schools, reducing the number of students failing, and changing the way we approach special education.

The report titled Steps to Effective and Sustainable Public Education in Nova Scotia was released by Education Minister Ramona Jennex on Thursday.

Written by Ontariobased education consultant Dr. Ben Levin, it recommends the province focus on five "key areas" — reducing failure rates, improving daily teaching, allowing some extra-curricular activities to count towards credits, building public engagement, and making better use of current facilities.

"Based on everything we know, public education in Nova Scotia is good," Levin said.

"But as circumstances change in the world around us, our institutions need to change to adjust to them."

Levin was careful to qualify several of those recommendations, noting "reducing failure" does not simply mean passing students who have not met the requirements.

He also said that before boards undertake closing "Enrolment data suggest that there could be a significant number of such schools across the province that could be closed and students relocated to other schools quite nearby."

DR. BEN LEVIN, IN HIS REPORT TO THE PROVINCE

any schools, more in-depth research should be conducted.

"We're looking at making sure our resources match the needs of our students," said Jennex. "We'll take everything (in the report) under advisement ... and this will actually give us our road map and our strategies as we move forward." Karen Casey, education

Karen Casey, education critic for the Liberals, questioned if Levin's report was sufficiently tailored to Nova Scotia's unique situation.

"Is it relevant? What information did he have to help him make those statements? My concern is very little," said Casey, noting Levin did not know how many schools may close if his recommendations are followed

"I thought we would hear something that would be specific to Nova Scotia."

Forty teachers laid off

Forty probationary teachers unsuccessfully pleaded for their jobs in front of the Halifax Regional School Board on Wednesday night.

Due to budget cuts, the board was originally planning to cut 44 probationary teaching positions but that was reduced to 40.

Many of those 40 teachers presented to the board during a late-night meeting. It was 1 a.m. on Thursday when the board decided to go ahead with terminations.

"And (the teachers) had to teach today so it was a hard day for them," said Alexis Allen, president of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.

"Some couldn't go before the board and make their presentations because it was so emotional."

Allen said she's worried about class sizes, and more teachers' jobs, because the cap for elementary classes primary to Grade 3 has grown from 25 to 27.

"Thirty-five elementary school teachers may lose their jobs," she said.

It's possible there will be fewer full-time teachers in September, said school board spokesman Doug Hadley, adding the positions will be lost through attrition.

"That's because of declining enrolment and those will be addressed through the budget process — there will not be any teachers losing jobs like they did (Wednesday) night." © JENNIFER TAPLIN



\$35MAmount to the education budget in the province this

Report questions need for teachers' aides

Dr. Ben Levin's report also recommends the province examine the documentation concerning requirements related to special education, as well as gradually reducing the number of education assistants in schools.

"Although parents of-

ten value (education assistants) presence as showing some effort to support students, empirical evidence does not show that having aides results in improved student performance," reads the report.

The report notes while

overall enrolment has decreased by two to three per cent, special education enrolment has grown by three to four per cent a year.

"I find that (recommendation) troubling, because a lot of time (students) need that aid

to do some very basic things," said Chris d'Entremont, Tory education critic.

ALEX BOUTILIER



Lahey betrayed trust: Community

Lahey was charged in October 2009 after airport customs officials screened his laptop • He was bearing a passport that contained stamps for Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia — known for child-sex tourism



The sting of disgraced Roman Catholic Bishop Raymond Lahey's deception will linger in the hearts of parishioners for some time to come, said residents of the area where he once preached.

A day after Lahey pleaded guilty to importing child pornography, people in Antigonish said Thursday they felt the 70-year-old former head of the local diocese broke their trust.

Andrew Chisholm, who

lives in the nearby community of Heatherton, said the memory of Lahey confirming his two daughters now sickens him.

The 52-year-old man, who lays floors for a living, said he believes the admission of guilt also tarnishes a landmark settlement Lahey helped negotiate for victims of child sexual abuse at the Antigonish diocese shortly before his

Lahey is not alleged to

"I feel betrayed ... I'm very disgusted."

ANDREW CHISHOLM. HEATHERTON RESIDENT

have been involved in that abuse. But he was a bishop in the community for six years and was seen as an instrumental figure in attempting to bring closure to those victims.

When the settlement was announced in the fall of 2009, Lahey apologized to the victims and said they were entitled to protection.

Lahey's predecessor, Bishop Brian Dunn, said Thursday he stands by the settlement, though he regrets the pain that Lahey's guilty plea has caused.

Dunn told a news conference that despite Lahey's actions, there's no sense that the settlement of the \$15-million class-action lawsuit was deceptive. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biggest concert this summer officially announced Monday

Monday is now the day.

Metro Halifax has learned that Metallica will be officially announced on Monday for the Garrisons Grounds of Citadel Hill on July 14.

Citing a source, the local music website Atlantic Canada Rocks also reports an announcement is coming on Monday regarding the much-rumoured rock show.

The website also reports that Three Days Grace could be one of the opening acts and that tickets will cost in the \$50 to \$60

A website titled rockthehill.ca has been put up as well, with text reading "stay tuned" on the home



page. What appears to be an image of the Town Clock can also be seen on the left.

The Metallica show will easily be the biggest concert of the summer in Halifax. PHILIP CROUCHER

ATTACK

Police searching for suspects

A fight outside a Beaver Bank restaurant left one man injured and police searching for two suspects.

It happened after 11 p.m. on Wednesday outside May Garden restaurant on Beaver Bank Road.

Police are reporting there was an argument between three men. One man took out a knife and started swinging it at the victim. The two suspects ran off.

A 40-year-old man received cuts on his left hand and upper body.

Cpl. Scott MacRae, spokesman for the Halifax RCMP, said it doesn't appear this stabbing is connected to several recent stabbings, shootings and homicides around HRM in the past month, but investigators are examining all possibili-

They're also looking into whether the victim knew the suspects.

'We believe it's not random but until our investigators look into all aspects of it right now we're looking for two suspects," MacRae



NSP proposes 'stable' increases

To make change effective Jan. 1, 2012, NSP must apply later this month to Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board



Nova Scotia Power Inc. met with customers yesterday proposing gentler bill increases over the next three years.

A few weeks ago, NSP started looking at a 15 per cent increase over the next three years: nine per cent in 2012, four per cent in 2013 and two per cent in 2014.

"Today we presented a plan that would have stable rate increases of four per cent per year," said Rene Gallant, vice president of regulatory affairs.

ent of regulatory affairs. That would be 12 per



cent over three years.

The idea is to carry over the cost of operating the business and pay later, he said.

"So the fuel increases would be recovered later and not before 2015."

Liberal MLA and energy critic Andrew Younger said the government can "I think it's a good thing they're actually talking to their customers right across the board. We're all looking for stability in power rates."

ENERGY MINISTER CHARLIE PARKER

order a performance audit on NSP and the utility should want to prove they're as efficient as possible before raising rates.

"The four per cent is well above inflation, and that is only a small portion of the rate increase which is coming," Younger said.



Airport shows off traffic stats

More than 3.5 million passengers whisked through Halifax Stanfield International Airport last year.

The airport authority held its annual meeting yesterday and had some impressive numbers to show off. Overall passenger traffic increased nearly three per cent, making it one of the busiest years in its half a century of operation. The biggest traffic increase was in non-stop flights to the U.S. which increased to a record 350,000 passengers. And there's a surplus of \$1.6 million on the books too. The extra money will go back into airport operations and development.

The airport collected \$19.7 million in airport improvement fees last year.

METRO





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METROPOLITAN OUTLOOK

Economic growth in HRM slows

Halifax — and other eastern Canadian cities – is lagging behind its western counterparts in economic growth.

The Conference Board of Canada released its spring 2011 metropolitan outlook for Canada's 13 largest cities on Thursday.

Cities in Saskatchewan and Alberta took the four top spots. Saskatoon's economy is expected to grow 4.1 per cent this year.

In comparison, Halifax's economy is expected to rise by 2.5 per cent this year. That's down from a 3.3 per cent growth in 2010.

A release from the board says Halifax is dealing with the end of the post-recession surge and a weak new homes market.

METRO

Pension review head appointed

Retired Supreme Court Justice David Gruchy has been named to head a threemember panel tasked with reviewing pensions for Nova Scotia politicians.

Former Utility and Review Board chairman John Morash and Ron Smith, former chief financial officer for Emera Inc., will join Gruchy on the panel.

The panel will review the pension plan and retirement benefits for politicians, along with the cost of administration.

It will report back with

Political payoff

The pension review was announced in January.

non-binding recommendations to legislature Speaker Gordie Gosse within six months.

Under the terms of reference, the panel has been asked to consider the pensions should not be so minimal that they may discourage people from running for public office, or so large they act as an inducement. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thief runs

rv store was robbed on

Thursday morning.

Just after 9:30 a.m., police say a man entered Ash Jewellers at 6257 Quinpool Rd., produced a knife and demanded cash.

A small amount of money was obtained and the man fled on foot.

METRO

Embracing immigration

• Despite some ambiguity towards multiculturalism, most of those surveyed feel it is important to accept immigrants into our community

BY THF NUMBERS

RICK EMBERLEY

HALIFAX@METRONEWS.CA



We welcome immigrants in HRM, or do we?

Seventythree per cent of residents

veyed feel immigrants will have a positive impact on our economy. And 84 per cent feel the arrival of immigrants enriches the cultural makeup of our community.

But we are a little more ambivalent on the subject of how they should fit in. While 52 per cent of the 508 residents we surveyed agree with the statement "we should completely accept the customs and traditions of immigrants," 68 per cent say immigrants must integrate into the customs. tradition lifestyles of Canada.

This apparent ambiguity is what multiculturalism represents in Canada today.

Another 74 per cent say it is important to promote the acceptance of immigrants to our community, but we seem to feel it is

Survey

Sample size is just over 500 HRM residents, with a margin of error of plus-or-minus 4.6%.

important as well to make sure they are "qualified."

This begs the question of whether we are motivated by economics or altruism. Only 61 per cent of respondents feel people in our community are accepting of immigrants, yet 88 per cent are personally accepting of immigrants.

When we try to explore this dichotomy several issues emerge as likely influencing people's views. One is the opinion immigrants take jobs away from existing Canadians — a view expressed by under 30 per cent of our sample.

As one might expect the somewhat opposite view, expressed by 62 per cent, that immigration creates employment opportunities is a counterpoint.

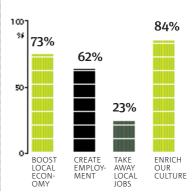
So why the apparent contradiction?

When we compare the results of similar surveys conducted in other places, it appears the more immigration we experience, the more accepting we are of it.



Immigration survey results

When immigrants move into my community, it will ...



Rick Emberley is senior counsel at Marketquest-Omnifacts, an Atlantic Canada research firm.

He has conducted public opinion research in the region for

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Canada not under his thum

Study contradicts suggestions Tory election victory means Canadians more conservative

To say Stephen Harper's top aides were euphoric at Monday's majority victory barely captures their high. Even on Wednesday, as they filed back into Langevin Block with four years to shape Canada as they want, they were in a daze.

But unlike many pundits, those same Conservatives told the Star they do not believe they have a free hand, or that Canadians have become more conservative in the face of the election's dramatic result.

Now, the first nationwide post-election study has confirmed their read contradicted the analysis of many columnists and commentators.

The "orange wave" of the NDP, the decimation of the Bloc Québécois and the punting of the Liberal party to a far corner of the Commons "do not signal a tectonic shift in Canadian politics towards a two-party state," concludes a report by Ensight Canada, a government relations and strategic communications research firm.

Instead, the outcome is tied to the "particular circumstances" of the 2011 vote: an electorate weary of "political games," and hungry for stability with a focus on jobs and the economy, says the report, to be released today.

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INCLUDES Mini car rental with collision damage waiver. ADD 2 nights accom from \$207.

Air + First 2 Nights 4.5-Star

from \$1039

INCLUDES air into Frankfurt, return from Munich and 2 nights central Frankfurt accom with breakfast. ADD 3-day German rail pass from \$236.

Barcelona Air + First 2 Nights from \$1099

INCLUDES central accom near the Sagrada Familia. UPGRADE to 5-Star from \$57 per day.

Paris Air + 7 Nights

from \$1129 + taxes & fees \$632

INCLUDES Latin Quarter accom. ADD Guided Visit Louvre Walking Tour from \$73.

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UPGRADE to 4-star Mona Lisa Suites for \$21 per night.

Boston Air + 2 Nights 4-Star

from \$539 + taxes & fees \$116

INCLUDES Beacon Hill accom next to the Boston Common.

New York Air + 3 Nights + taxes & fees \$121

INCLUDES chelsea accom near Empire State Building.

UPGRADE to Central Park 4-star for \$22 per night.

California Air + 7-Day Car

INCLUDES air to Los Angeles, return from San Francisco and 7-day car rental with unlimited mileage. ADD Golden Gate Bay Cruise from \$18.

San Francisco Air + 4 Nights from \$779

INCLUDES Market Street accom near Union Square. UPGRADE to 4-star hotel from \$30 per night.











Army deployed to help Quebec flood victims

• Government can't fully compensate the 3,000 people who lost homes, premier says • Waters continue to rise

With entire neighbourhoods half covered in water. Canadian soldiers were being deployed in southeastern Quebec Thursday to help flood victims.

Military vehicles rumbled into the hardest-hit areas, where soldiers placed sandbags to help stop the flooding.

Area residents, meanwhile, struggled to get around in canoes and allterrain vehicles.

The military arrived one day after Quebec Premier Jean Charest asked for help from the Canadian Forces.

About 2,800 people have

been forced from their homes, with aerial images showing rows of houses half submerged along the Richelieu River.

The flooding has affected 3,000 homes and one third of those residences have been evacuated.

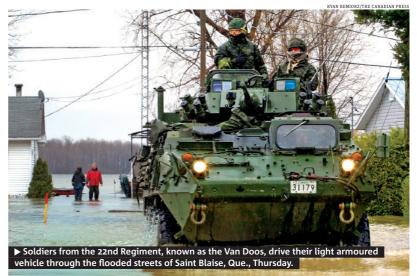
Charest A subdued toured the flooded areas Thursday. He said the government would compensate people and municipalities for some of the damages. But he warned that the government couldn't pay for everything.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winter's fallout

Environment Canada explained that this year's heavy winter snowfall is responsible for the floods.

- Melted Snow in the U.S. Adirondacks melted into Lake Champlain combined with this week's rain, a startling volume of water poured into the Richelieu River.
- Unique "This is a really unique phenomenon," said Rene Heroux, an **Environment Canada** meteorologist.





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EX-PREZ STAYS AWAY

Bush wants to keep a low profile

George W. Bush's decision not to appear at Ground Zero with Barack Obama after the death of Osama bin Laden is part of his desire to keep a low public profile, says former first lady Laura Bush.

Laura Bush said she and her husband were out to dinner Sunday night when they got word that Obama wanted to speak with him.

The former president went home to take the call informing him that U.S. military forces had killed Osama bin Laden in a raid in Pakistan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A pilgrimage to Ground Zero



New details emerge on raid

Only one of the five people killed in the raid that got Osama bin Laden was armed and fired any shots, a senior U.S. defence official said Thursday.

The official agreed the new account differs greatly from original White House portrayals of a chaotic, intense and prolonged firefight. The sole shooter in the al-Qaida leader's Pakistani compound was quickly killed in the early minutes of the commando operation, the official said

The Navy SEALs assault team then swept through the house and shot the others.

The details emerged after the SEALs' debriefing.

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• The world 'will never forget,' says Barack Obama

U.S. President Barack Obama on Thursday marked Osama bin Laden's death where the terrorist inflicted his greatest damage — New York's Ground Zero.

Obama laid a wreath there and declared: "When we say we will never forget, we mean what we say."

Obama closed his eyes and clasped his hands at the outdoor memorial where the twin towers of the World Trade Center once dominated the Manhattan skyline.

He shook hands with family members affected by

"I just want to thank him, hug him ... and shake his hand. Father to father. Thank you for doing this for me."

JIM RICHES, WHOSE FIREFIGHTER SON WAS KILLED AT GROUND ZERO

the terrorist attacks at the site where the skyscrapers were brought down by planes commandeered by bin Laden's followers.

Nearly 3,000 were killed in the twin attacks on New York and the Pentagon. The president also visited firefighters and police officers whose response to the terror attacks turned them into heroes.

"This is a symbolic site of the extraordinary sacrifice that was made on that terrible day," Obama said at Engine 54, Ladder 4, Battalion 9. The New York firehouse lost 15 firefighters on Sept. 11.

At the First Precinct police station, Obama said of those who died in the Sept. 11 attacks, "We keep them in our hearts. We haven't forgotten."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Church spared wrecking ball

Town could not afford to keep 170-year-old building

Cheers and applause echoed over the rainsoaked shores of a Nova Scotia river Thursday as a ferry steamed into port carrying an exalted piece of cargo.

About 300 people crowded around the wharf in Newport Landing while the boat slowly inched toward shore, laden with a 170-year-old church spared from the wrecking ball and destined for a new home inland.

Stewart Creaser organ-

\$1.67

Stewart Creaser was offered the Walton church for a dollar, but he insisted on paying the original price: \$1.67 in 1837.

ized the unusual journey after buying the Anglican church more than a year ago to house his vineyard's wine shop in Avondale in the Annapolis Valley.

He travelled up the Avon with the church after it was loaded on board Wednesday in nearby Walton, where it was purchased for \$1.67 in 1837.

Creaser has said he's thrilled to be able to save the prim, light-blue building because of its unique construction features that should be treasured, but would otherwise have been lost.

THE CANADIAN PRESS





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Ignatieff goes back to school in teacher post

Iggy joins U of T He returns to academia after leading Liberals to worst electoral showing in history

Michael Ignatieff is returning to his first love - academia - after losing his own seat in Monday's bloodbath.

He has been appointed as senior resident at the University of Toronto's Massey College.

He will be teaching at the university's faculty of law and the political science department, as well as at the Munk School of Global Affairs and the School of Public Policy and Governance.

Ignatieff is a graduate of the university and an in-



ternationally academic and author.

He was lured into politics five years ago from a prestigious position at Harvard and has also taught at Oxford and Cam-

The college's senior resident position has traditionally been offered to leaders making the transition from politics.

The position has been held by former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, former Reform party leader Preston Manning and Bob Rae, now a Toronto Liberal

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Teachers take to streets

Teachers have been in negotiations for nearly a year and without a contract since the end of August. In April, they voted 95 per cent in favour of job action. The union is demanding a 12 per cent raise over one year.

The Downtown Halifax Business Commission presents The 10th Annual Carmichael Lecture



Managing Urban Sprawl and Smart Growth

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They were both instrumental in establishing Greater Toronto's Green Belt.

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metronews.ca
weekend, May 6-8, 2011

Grim task of burying left to volunteers

Misrata's streets covered in bodies as Gadhafi troops pull out

Flies flickered through flashlight beams and a foul odour filled the air as the men tromped down the stairs to a basement. Their rubber boots splashed in ankle-deep putrid water as they scanned the darkness for the bodies they had come to retrieve.

The men are all volunteers for the particularly morbid task of combing Misrata's war-shattered streets for the unburied dead from two months of urban combat.

The group has found well over 100 bodies, including 44 charred corpses in one house, said Dr. Faraj Ahmed, a veterinarian. "When Gadhafi's forces pulled out ... they had left lots of bodies — 10 here, 25 there — and the dogs and the cats were eating them."

BASHIR IBRAHIM, VOLUNTEER

The group's members are not trained to deal with the dead, and no one asked them to do it. Instead, the labourers, businessmen and university students organized themselves, driven by the desire to prevent disease and follow the Islamic obligation to respect the dead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gadhafi's nurse seeks asylum

Moammar Gadhafi's Ukrainian nurse is in Norway and has applied for political asylum, the country's security police say.

Halyna Kolotnytska left Libya in February due to the unrest and returned to Ukraine, where she stayed



with her daughter and mother in a modest apartment near Kyiv. It is not known if her family went with her to Norway.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rebels to receive new funds

New money pipelines are opening up to help Libyan rebels determined to topple Moammar Gadhafi, with the U.S. saying it will move to free up part of the \$30 billion it has frozen in Libyan assets and a score

\$3D The rebels say they need up to \$3 billion for military salaries, food, medicine and other basic supplies.

of nations pledging Thursday to start a new fund to supply civilians with food, medicine and even paychecks. Twenty-two nations have already pledged \$250 million in humanitarian aid. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Royal couple to visit California

Trip to follow weeklong Canadian tour, where pair will visit Ottawa, P.E.I., Quebec, Alberta, N.W.T, Arctic



Wills and Kate are heading west to California in July.

Prince William and his wife, Kate Middleton, will be in the state for three days starting July 8 after their official tour of Canada, the prince's office announced Thursday.

The palace did not provide details of their itinerary.

The trip will be William's first official trip

to the U.S. and Kate's first to the country.

The royal couple — now known as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge — married last week at Westminster Abbey in a ceremony seen around the world.

After a long weekend in private, they have returned to the remote island of Anglesey in Wales, where William is based as

a Royal Air Force searchand-rescue helicopter pilot, putting off a honeymoon for now.

Royal visits, of course, also create traffic jams, and California Highway Patrol spokeswoman Fran Clader said her agency could be called on to help keep the roads clear. But for security reasons she wouldn't say whether the agency has been asked yet.

As they plan their trip, William and Kate might get some tips from the prince's grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II.

She stopped in San Diego, Los Angeles, Palm Springs, San Francisco and elsewhere in 1983. During an earlier visit she even watched movies being made at Universal Studios.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Brits vote on electoral reform

Most happy with system now: Poll

British voters were deciding Thursday whether to change how members of Parliament are elected an issue that has split the government but didn't appear to excite the public.

Polls ahead of Thursday's referendum indicated that most voters were content to keep the first-past-the-post system, in which the candidate with the most votes in a district wins a seat in the

"Candidates will need to knock on more doors, make more phone calls and listen more carefully to those who disagree."

ED MILIBAND, LEADER OF THE MAIN OPPOSITION LABOUR PARTY

House of Commons.

Polls detected less support for a change to the Alternate Vote, where voters mark their ballots in order of preference. If no one wins a majority on the first count, votes of the lowestranked candidates would

be distributed according to preferences.

The referendum was the condition on which the perennially third-place Liberal Democrats joined a new coalition government with the Conservatives last spring. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Voting for change

Liberal Democrats have most to gain from changing the voting system.

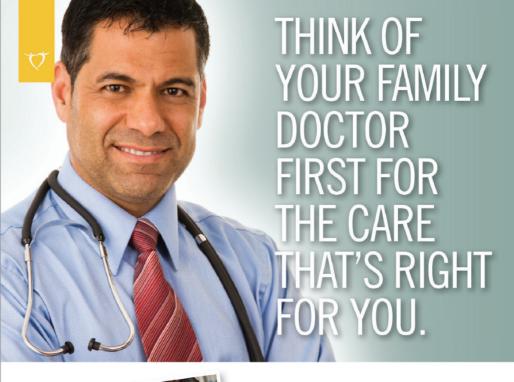
In Britain's general election last year, they got 23 per cent of the vote but only nine per cent of the 650 seats in the House of



Meows like a dove's cry

Smokey the cat has roared her way into Guinness World Records, having achieved the loudest purr by a domestic cat. Guinness said Thursday the tabby earned her place with a record-setting 67.7 decibels, a sound akin to that of an angry dove.







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Cost cuts will drive new low-cost carrie

But Air Canada could face headwinds with labour disputes

Air Canada will introduce a discount carrier only if it can sustainably reduce labour and other costs, CEO Calin Rovinescu said Thursday.

"We will not do it unless it has the ability to remain truly low cost over the long term. It needs to be able to avoid the type of cost creep that has plagued legacy carriers over the years," he said.

Canada's largest airline failed in its attempt to introduce low-cost carriers a decade ago. The proposed model would ramp up to 50 aircraft and create jobs for 462 pilots, three times as many flight attendants and some airport workers.

Rovinescu said the new carrier can work by creating a fundamentally different cost structure to profitably operate in leisure markets and European destinations. Among the potential high-volume, low-yield destinations that could be served are Amsterdam, Dublin, Nice, Manchester, Lisbon, Casablanca and southern sun cities.

Approval from Air Canada's unions is crucial. The airline has begun negotiations with all of its labour groups and is hopeful that new agreements can be reached without disputes. A ratification vote by pilots gets underway on Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS



reported first-quarter losses of \$19 million, compared to



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metr@voices metronews.ca **WEEKEND, MAY 6-8, 2011**

FRESH FACES SEAL PLACES IN POLITICS

THE **METRO LIST** PAUL SULLIVAN

This was the mother of all news weeks.

Kindergarten Kaukus: Among Jack Layton's newly elected MPs: 19year-old Pierre-Luc Dusseault,

the youngest MP in the history of the nation, who would not have been old enough to vote before 1970. He is joined in the House by Ruth Ellen Brosseau, 27, elected in a francophone riding even though she doesn't speak much French and spent a good part of the campaign in

Vegas, baby. Thus begins the shortest political honeymoon ever.

Osama pictures: OK, is this guy really dead or what? Doubting Thomases of the world unite! Show us the pictures! This is probably just a stunt by that other Arab, Obama what's-his-name, to distract

"... it's time for **PETA to round** up a bunch of celebrities to bitch about the seal hunt. This year

it's Iggy Pop ..."

us from the real scandal: He was obviously born in Africa or is an alien or something.

Royal wedding: Kate and William cost the U.K. five billion to 10 billion pounds in lost productivity because of all those bewitched Brits. Of course, the \$3.3 billion in roval tzotchkes almost made it a wash. If you're already sick of the whole thing, hold onto your stom-

ach as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are going to Hollywood after they finish the tour of the provinces this summer. Can't wait.

The Naughty Bishop: Canada's creepiest cleric, his former eminence Raymond Lahey, confessed to a fatal attraction for young males, even though his church is opposed to homosexuality, pederasty, and various other mortal sins of that ilk. Lahey is so overcome by Catholic guilt he's eager to go to jail even before formal sentencing. Whatever his maxima culpa, you can bet he won't be declared a saint like John Paul II right after he dies. Or ever, for that matter.

The seal hunt: Along with the darling buds of May, it's that time of year when Newfoundlanders go out on the ice to prove their manhood by clubbing cute cuddly seals to death. And, just as inevitably, it's time for PETA to round up a bunch of celebrities to bitch about the seal hunt. This year it's Iggy Pop, who just looks as if he's been clubbed to death, and Ke\$ha (seals are, like, our friends) who are featured on posters that say: Canada's Club Scene Sucks!

Honourable mentions:

6 50th anniversary of the Freedom Riders: A little token dignity in a sea of nonsense.

7 Michael Ignatieff: It was all just a dream Zsuszanna. There's no place like Harvard.

8 Gilles Duceppe: Bloc Québécois leader will collect a pension of \$140,765 from the Canadian people for the rest of his life. Merde.

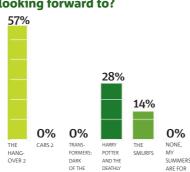
9 Why are we in Libva?

10 Bieber watch: Australian teen arrested for throwing eggs at Justin Bieber. Because he missed?



Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll

What summer movies are you most looking forward to?



Local tweets



▶ @im adam barrett: It's weird: I wouldn't lis-

ten to a Metallica album, but I would go to a Metallica concert in Halifax. @GlenJM: I'm headed

- home to Halifax tomorrow to finish a feature film I started working on 3 years ago called ONLY HUMAN. #oldschool
- @cameronmcraig: My favourite local Halifax shop is The Smiling Goat because of their awesome Clover Machine! Best coffee in town!

- ▶ @julia76: Love the Armview Halifax! Yumm.
- @richardclark: Dalhousie University commissioned a report to determine the university's economic impact on Halifax. So that's where my tuition goes!
- ▶ @pharmfame: I just heard that Boyz II Men is coming to Halifax for a show ... am I the only one who kinda wants to go?? Re-live my high school dances
- @Trybarefoot: It's at least 10C in #Halifax. Just saw guy sporting ear muffs - not headphones ... Cold?

Worth mentioning

TORONTO. A research team at Queen's University has entered the race to slim down tablets and smartphones with a plastic, flexible prototype that's just about paper thin.

The school's Human Media Lab has unveiled a type of e-paper technology nicknamed the Paper-Phone, which is described as a bendable

The device measures 9.5 centimetres diagonally and its electronics are housed in a thin, flexible film that can be rolled up. It has a greyscale E Ink screen and has a few applications that can make phone calls, play music, read e-books and

Rather than using buttons or touchscreen controls, the plastic device responds to different bends. Commands are triggered by bending the corners of the device, or rolling the right edge backward or forward.

While creator Roel Vertegaal admits the technology would likely need at least five to 10 years to go mass market in a sophisticated way, he boldly claims the research team is onto a game-changing technolo-2V. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder

REACH



Wonder what his wandering will accomplish

A social media enthusiast has won the title of "Saskatchewanderer," a post with the provincial government that his bosses dubbed "the best summer job ever."

Andrew Konoff, 21, will be paid to spend the summer travelling and blogging, tweeting, Facebooking and YouTubing about everything that makes Saskatchewan special.

The tourism department came up

with the idea to hold a competition to hire a post-secondary student for the job by posting short videos by the applicants online and then letting the public cast their votes.

The University of Regina student, event planner and stage actor started out with a clever video describing his passion for travel and his previous adventures on the Mongol Rally, a car race from England to Mongolia.

He boasted of his love for Saskatchewan, "which includes my love of the Riders and crappy roads."

Tourism Minister Bill Hutchinson said Konoff has already created a buzz about the job and he believes the people of Saskatchewan will find his work interesting and informative. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Gaga contest



Congratulations to Lyle Reimer, our Čanadian finalist in Metro's global Lady Gaga editorial assistant contest.

Lyle, who lives in Richmond, B.C., with partner Ray-mond Boutet, wowed us with his strength, courage and wonderful sense of self — not to mention fabulous sense of humour.

Be sure to pick up Metro May 17 – remember, Lady Gaga is our international Guest Editor — to read Lyle's winning entry and find out who was named Gaga's assistant for a day.

Plot synopsis

Based on the Marvel comic book, the action in Thor really begins with our hero about to be named king by his father (Anthony Hopkins). Seconds before daddy says the words, "You are king," Frost Giants from an enemy realm interrupt the ceremony. Furious that his big day has been marred, Thor (Chris Hemsworth) disobeys his father and skips realms to confront the invaders. His punishment for his reckless, arrogant behaviour is banishment to Earth and the arms of meteorologist Jane Foster (Natalie Portman).

Ratinas: Richard: 🕮 🍩 Mark: ●●●

Reel Guys RICHARD

MARK

CROUSE &

BRESLIN

Thor brings the fun

▶ Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin debate the merits of Thor ▶ It's cheesy fun and the humour shines through, even if the love story falls a little flat



Richard Crouse: Mark, it's hammer time! Thor, the ball peen superhero, is big, loud cheesy fun. It feels a bit like an amuse bouche to the all-superhero-allthe-time Avengers movie coming next year, but as an origin movie it gets the job done. Unlike its star, the incredibly buff Chris Hemsworth, the movie is a bit soft in the middle. It starts off well, slows to a crawl midway, but as soon as Thor Gets His Groove back ... er ... Gets His Hammer Back, the movie gets back on track. What did you think?

► Chris Hemsworth and Natalie Portman star in Thor.

Mark Breslin: Well, it did feel long to me. In fact, my ath ith thtill a bit thor. But

I liked the way it moved back and forth between the worlds of Earth and Thor's home planet. It almost felt like two different movies were going on, but just almost. At first I couldn't believe that Kenneth Branagh would direct a comic book movie, but the film does have a Shakespearean feel at times. What say you, Richard?

RC: It's a greatest hits of Willy's themes — love, deception, death and daddy issues, and Anthony Hopkins classes up the joint a little bit, although the way he chews the scenery it's like he hasn't eaten in a month but I wish it didn't sag in the middle. The Natalie Portman love story is the weakest thing about the movie.

MB: And Portman is the weakest link in the film, period. But what about the lead, Chris Hemsworth? I thought he was very good in a ludicrous role, and the twinkle in his eye and swagger in his step really made the part bearable, as did his spectacular pecs.

RC: Couldn't agree more about Portman. She's miscast. Kat Dennings, in a throwaway role that she turns into a charismatic supporting part, would have been a better and more interesting lead. As

for Hemsworth, initially I didn't know if he was going to cut it with his oh-soserious line delivery, but later, his realization that as "the Mighty Thor" has lost some of his powers is fun. The movie is actually a lot funnier than I thought it would be.

MB: Intentionally funny, I might add, which is unusual for this kind of movie. I liked the visuals on Planet Whatever. They were rich and deep, which is more than I can say for the now-mandatory 3-D, which I found tepid. But not the noise level! Talk about Hammer time! I'm just getting my hearing

















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STARTS TODAY

Feig mines optimism for laughs

▶ Bridesmaids director got to work with the funniest females around ▶ Hopes movie opens doors for women



Paul Feig is probably best described as a master of cringe comedy. As the cocreator of the beloved high school humiliation comedy Freaks And Geeks as well as the director of TV shows like The Office and films like the upcoming Bridesmaids, Feig has displayed a knack for mining laughs out of awkward behaviour.

When asked why he has such an affinity for this style of comedy, Feig told Metro, "I'm an eternal optimist and when you're an optimist you're always opening yourself up for humiliation and failure because it's very seldom that things turn out better than you expect. It's inevitably

Feig's resumé

Paul Feig might not the biggest name in comedy but he's been involved with some of the best TV comedies around. Here is a partial list of show's he has worked on.

The Office, Nurse Jackie, Bored to Death, Parks and Recreation, Weeds, 30 Rock, Arrested Development, Undeclared, Freaks and Geeks.

worse and I always found that funny and relatable."

Feig's latest directorial outing Bridesmaids (opening next week) fits comfortably into this mould. The film stars Saturday Night Live veteran Kristen Wiig — who also co-wrote the

movie — as a struggling woman with a failed business, a mountain of debt, and a stunted love life who finds herself going through a series of embarrassing misadventures while helping a lifelong friend prepare for her wedding. It's a situation designed to provoke fits of laughter through nauseating discomfort and also fulfilled Feig's longstanding desire to create strong comedic roles for women.

"I've always had this sick feeling in my stomach over women getting such crappy roles, especially in comedies where they always tend to become shrewish," explained the director. "To this day, so many talented people I know in this business are women who are hilarious



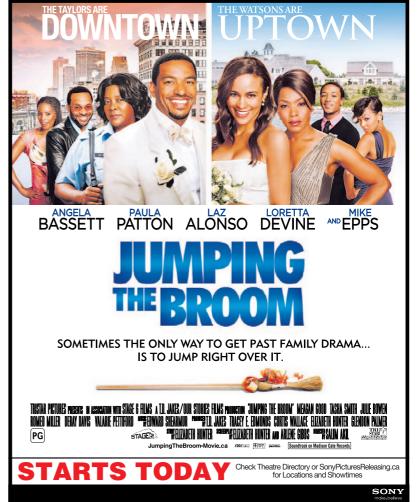
but can't get that big break because the roles just aren't there.

"I thought it would be nice to change the tide with this movie a little bit. But that also brought a lot of pressure on me because it's like, 'Oh God, if I screw this up or it doesn't do well, it's going to make it even harder for women to get their own projects.'"

Based on laugh count

alone the director definitely succeeded and now we'll see if audiences will be willing to open their hearts and wallets to see his cast of lovely ladies behaving badly





Priest taps into western genre



The American western long ago dug its dusty claws into virtually every genre of film known to man, but it's with horror and science fiction that the mark remains most resonant.

Director Scott Stewart's new 3-D horror action yarn Priest however, makes little effort to hide its inspiration, wearing its Stetson tipped heart on its sleeve. The film sees actor Paul Bettany playing the titular man of the cloth who breaks his vows of peace to rescue his niece from the fangs of the hordes of vampires that ravage the Earth, all the while running afoul of a corrupt church (led by Christopher Plummer)



"(Priest) has familiar ingredients but a new recipe, says Stewart. "It has all these iconic elements. Motorcycles replace horses and the look of the film is a mix of the 1890's period film and a post-apocalyptic world."

Stewart's background is in special effects, having worked extensively with his own company and with Industrial Light & Magic of the creating some

screen's grandest illusions. It's this ability to understand the aesthetics and mechanics of special effects that made him the perfect choice for such a visual pic-

"Because of my FX work I can visualize ideas myself," Stewart said. "I can show people what I want the vampires and cities to look

Priest is clearly a fantasy, yet with its title and blatantly theological themes, it is certainly set to court controversy. Stewart, how-ever, isn't worried about any backlash.

"God is not a bad guy in this movie," Stewart said. "It's about an oppressive government that is just as bad as the church, but that's in the context of the

Movie reviews See it twice *** | See it now ***

Worth watching



Jumping The Broom Genre: Romantic Comedy Director: Salim Akil Stars: Paula Patton, Laz Alonso, Angela Bassett

When a boy from the neighbourhood gets engaged to a wealthy lady, cultures will clash. That's nothing new, yet

it's still the concept of Jumping The Broom, a sort of Tyler Perry-lite wedding rom-com. The actors are better than the material and often lift scenes above movie-ofthe-week territory, but not nearly enough to save

O PHIL BROWN



Something Borrowed Genre: Romantic Comedy **Director:** Luke Greenfield Stars: Kate Hudson, Ginnifer Goodwin, Colin Egglesfield

This somewhat aggravat-

ing romance wades through murky waters of love triangles, deceit, betrayal and ill will. It's imwho is really in love with Rachel (Goodwin). There are a few laughs despite everyone's failure to see what's in front of them. ANNE BRODIE

possible to buy Kate Hud-

reserved Dex (Egglesfield),

son's Darcy, a motor-

intended bride of a

mouthed shrew as the

parents and their equally dysfunctional neighbors. While star Gregory Smith is a bright light of abnormality, the story's novelty soon grows cumbersome.

STEVE GOW

Whirligig

Genre: Comedy/Drama **Director:** Chaz Thorne Stars: Gregory Smith, Fiona Highet

Filmmaker Chaz Thorne

ChronicleHerald

lays the quirkiness on thick in his new comicdrama Whirligig. When an anxiety-ridden ex-Mormon returns to Nova Scotia, he hits rock bottom alongside his eccentric



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African Cats (G) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:35-

3:10-9:10

Arthur (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating FriThu 12:50-3:55-6:45-10

Fast Five (14) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium

Seating fri-Thu 12:20-1:20-3:20-4:15-6:30-7:15-9:30-10:05 **Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil 3D** (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35-4:10-

Hop (G) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:05-3:30-6:15 Insidious (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 10:10

The Lincoln Lawyer (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:25-6:25-9:05 Memphis (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating

Prom (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:05-9:50 Rio 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-

Thu 1:15-4:15-6:50-9:15

Scream 4 (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 10:20

Something Borrowed (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-

Soul Surfer (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:25-4:05-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo, Sta dium Seating Sun 4:05-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:45-9:10 Source Code (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 9:25 Thor (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:50-10:30

Thor 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-1:30-4-4:30-7-7:30-9:55-10:15 Water for Elephants (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:35-6:30-9:20 Whirtigig (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:20-9

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Jane Eyre (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 4:30-7:30 Mon 7:30 Tue 4:30-7:30 Wed-Thu 7:30

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Dirty Dancing (STC) Stadium Seating Wed 9 **Fast Five** (14) Digital, Stadium Seating, No Pass-Fast Five (14) Digital, Stadium Seating, No Pass se fri 12:30-120-330-415-620-7:10-9:10-10:10-11:50 Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-120-3:30-4:15-620-7:10-9:10-10:10 Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon 3:30-4:05-6:20-7:10-9:10-10:10 Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Tue 3:30-4:15-6:20-7:10-9:10-10:10 Digital,

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Something Borrowed (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 1-3:50-6:50-9:30-11:45 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-

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Soul Surfer (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 9:11:40

Stadium Seating Sat-Thu 9

Thor (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun

1:10-4-7:20-10 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-

Thor 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 12:40-3:20-6:40-9:20-11:55 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:20-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon 3:35-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating, No Passes North 3-20-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating, No Passes Wed-Thu 3:35-6:40-9:20 Water for Elephants (PG) Stadium Seating

Fri 12:50-3:40-7-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat 7-9:40 Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-3:40-7-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-7-9:40

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Fast Five (14) No Passes Dolby Stereo Digital Stadium Seating Fri 6:20-9:10 No Passes, Dolby

Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:20-9:10 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:20-9:10

Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:55-3:50-6:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating

Prom (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:25

Rio 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-8:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:05-3:20-6:40-8:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50 Scream 4 (14) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo

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Mon-Thu 7-9:30

Water for Elephants (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:20 Dolby Stereo

Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:40-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu

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African Cats (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium

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Rockin' a tux every day

• After tour with Winehouse and Prince, Janelle Monae hits the road again

Like most artists, Janelle Monae prepares for a live show with a list she follows, including exercising

and vocal warm-

ups Unlike most artists, Monae says her list also includes the routine of put-

ting her hair in dirt, washing and conditioning it — and repeating the cycle. She also says that she eats "Asian cuisine with the bus driver.

It's hard to tell if she is joking, but if you know of Monae — or her music — it wouldn't be that surprising. The singer is not your typical artist: She's always

seen in a tuxedo and rocks a pompadour. Her music is a blend of alternative, R&B and funk sounds and some of her songs are inspired by things like Muhammad Ali's fists, Walt Disney and Star Wars.

The singer's first fulllength CD, the melodramatic 18-track epic The ArchAndroid, follows a female android who discovers she is the chosen one and is trying to adapt to her new superpowers. The disc earned her two Grammy nominations and was a critical success. The Associated Press named it the No. 1 album of 2010.

Since its release, Monae has toured with Prince and Winehouse. She'll open for Katy Perry in September and her co-headlining tour with rising star Bruno Mars kicks off Wednesday in New York.

The 25-year-old Monae says because of her musical style, she's able to go on the road with, pretty much, any musician.

"I can go anywhere that I want," Monae told the AP in a phone interview last week. "I could hang with (Vogue magazine editor-atlarge) Andre Leon Talley, Karl Lagerfeld ... Big Boi (of OutKast), do shows with Prince, Stevie Wonder. I mean that's pretty much my life. I'm not boxed in to any one thing."

The performer said she spent 80 per cent of the last year on tour, but insists she's found some downtime to record new music. "I'm very inspired right now," she said. "This (new) will definitely album change lives."

Monae and Mars are labelmates. They performed a medley together at this year's Grammy Awards, along with rapper B.o.B. Monae says she's excited to share her music with Mars' fans, and says they can expect surprises and more onstage. "Our shows are very high energy and you don't see that a lot," she said. "I would love to see it more you know when you have the artist crowd surfing and giving their all. And there are a lot of great shows out, but what we're doing is not being done.' THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANVIL HAS WEIGHT

SOUND CHECK



ALAN CROSS SCENE @METRONEWS.CA Whilst listening to the BBC in the

winter of 2009, a movie reviewer said, "The Story of Anvil is very good, but I couldn't tell if I was being put on. Is this a real band or is it some kind of Spinal Tap joke?"

I immediately sent an email. "They're real. Trust me." A few minutes later, the reviewer returned. "I've just received an email from a chap in Canada who assures us that Anvil and their story are very real. Okay, if you say so."

Since then, guitarist/ singer Steve "Lips" Kudlow, drummer Robb Reiner - in their 50s - and bass player Glenn Five (the baby) have barely had time to breathe. Gigs opening for AC/DC; the Tonight Show; a cameo in The Green Hornet: shows from South America to Japan; a book based on the movie with a foreward by Slash. And along the way, a few surreal moments.

"When (the documentary) won at the Independent Spirit Awards, I saw Paul McCartney across the room," Lips says, "and I thought "This is my chance! I'm going to meet a Beatle!' But then Ouentin **Tarantino** blocked me. 'You got ripped off at the Oscars! YOU should have won (for best documentary)! But they gave it to a dolphin movie! A DOLPHIN MOVIE!"

The Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl is a fan. "He pulled up in a limo and got out with a guitar case and I thought 'Great! He's going to want to jam with us!' But then he said 'This guitar is for you because I'm such a big fan.

Grohl invited Anvil to make their next album at his private 606 Studios. All of Reiner's drum tracks from their new album, Juggernaut of Justice, (out Tuesday) were recorded

If you're into Anvil and their kind of metal, I can honestly say that this album is the best thing they've done since the early '80s.

Lips looks at me with a mixture of awe and wonder. "Our 15 minutes," he says, "has now gone to two hours.'



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Who will help Oprah say goodbye?

▶ Tom Cruise, Jennifer Aniston? ▶ 154,000 ask for tickets

Oprah Winfrey has given the world 25 years of poets and politicians, A-list actors and musicians and talk show topics that defined and reflected American culture.

As The Oprah Winfrey Show ends, with 16 episodes left as of May 4, her millions of fans around the globe are waiting to see how she will close out a show that engineered a media empire.

The show is dubbed Surprise Oprah! A Farewell Spectacular. Winfrey hates surprises, producers say, but she has agreed to this event.



But for fans, questions remain.

Who will be at the United Center that Tuesday night? Who will be beamed in by satellite or deliver a taped farewell message?

Winfrey has a stable of celebrity friends who have appeared repeatedly on her talk show. John Travolta. Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes. Jennifer Aniston. Chris Rock. ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Not-so-Desperate partnership

○ But Desperate Housewives stars say their characters' relationship is mirrored off-screen



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Marriage can be a hard job. This Tom and Lynette Scavo have reminded us for seven years as husband and wife on Desperate Housewives.

On the other hand, marriage can be a great gig. That's what it's been for

Doug Savant and Felicity Huffman, who are wed in holy matrimony as the Scavos on the ABC hit.

"It's a good marriage," states Huffman. "It's got its ups and downs, but it keeps moving forward."

Their TV marriage has weathered many challenges in this melange of melodrama, whodunit and dark comedy. Now, as Housewives (airing Sunday at 9 p.m. EDT) builds to its season finale on May 15, Tom has bloomed into a big-shot businessman who thinks Lynette is threatened by his success.

"That's a new thing, and I find that as we act these scenes, it informs our off-screen time. Suddenly, we are a little at odds with each other, a little short with each other, in a way we didn't used to be. You're meaner," she says to Savant and chuckles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV picks



Returning to her roots

COMEDY. Tina Fey is back on the show that made her famous. She hosts Saturday Night Live this week, the third time she's had the honour. The musical guest is U.K. singer-songwriter Ellie Goulding. (Saturday, Global)

The original Blues Brothers

Music Doc. Dan Aykroyd narrates a documentary about the Toronto-formed Downchild Blues Band, who he credits with inspiring the Blues Brothers. Flip, Flop, and Fly, 40 Years of the Downchild Blues Band covers the history of the Juno Awardwinning band. (Friday, HBO Canada)

MacDonald does Leno

TALK. Canadian comic Norm MacDonald sits down to chat on The Tonight Show With Jay Leno, along with American Idol judge Steven Tyler. (Friday, A channel)

Gaga at the Garden

Music. Lady Gaga has her first made-for-TV concert debuting tonight after a two-night stint in New York in February. Lady Gaga Presents the Monster Ball Tour: At Madison Square Garden is a two-hour show combining the highlights of the sold out concerts, including all her hits. (Saturday, HBO Canada)

Final race through Rio

REALITY. It's a wrap on The Amazing Race: Unfinished Business, which had returning teams getting another crack at the globetrotting challenge.

The final stretch of the race goes through Brazil's Rio de Janeiro before ending in Miami. (Sunday, CTV)

Homer the hairdresser

COMEDY. Tonight's new episode of The Simpsons is called Homer Scissorhands and sees the bald one finding he has an undiscovered talent: styling hair. (Sunday, Fox)





metr@dish metronews.ca **WEEKEND, MAY 6-8, 2011**

Talking points

This book is not for Bullock

EX-HUSBAND. Friends of Sandra Bullock say the Oscar-winning actress won't be reading exhusband Jesse James' new tell-all book, American Outlaw, according to Popeater.

"He has got nerve going on TV and moaning that he has spent the last five years worrying only about Sandra when we all know the only person Jesse ever thinks about is himself," the source

"He's learned nothing. He says that he has forgiven himself and moved on, but obviously doesn't give a damn about others forgiving him. If he did he wouldn't be reliving this ugly time again to sell a book." • METRO

Rough patch for Leo and Bar

Rumours abound about possible breakup

Leonardo DiCaprio and Bar Refaeli's separate social lives are once again fueling breakup rumours.

According to Page Six, the couple is "going through a difficult patch," but are committed to working through their problems.

Earlier this week. DiCaprio chose to hang out with friends at the Standard hotel in New York in lieu of accompanying Refaeli to the Met Costume Institute gala.



Celebrity tweets



Had thera py today, which is

weird 'cause everybody ELSE is crazy. Um, er, right u guys??? Don't leave a sista

@rustvrockets

I iust broke

my Royal



Wedding mug, is this an omen? (I

broke it by throwing it out the window)

@IMKristenBell

if u cannot manage to get the paper napkin in the

restroom.

garbage can, u do not deserve to use the indoor



I had the

dream last

most normal



night. It was just me waiting

in line at the bank for a reasonable amount of time.

No wedding stress for Bell

Just because Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard are engaged doesn't mean themthey're busying selves with planning the big day.

"We're just not having a wedding," she tells Us Weekly. "I mean, we're still getting married, but we're going to do it when-ever we feel like it." In fact, Bell is still busy celebrating their February 2010 engagement. "The fact that he asked me to marry him is of a little more importance than me planning a party," she says.

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Mother's Day brunch

Surprise mom with breakfast in bed Pumpkin French Toast is easy for the kids to make Pumpkin adds sweetness and boosts nutritional value

Of course, the carefully handprinted (and adorably misspelled) card made by our children is the thing that every mother cherishes from Mother's Day. Flowers are thoughtful and so is brunch at a nice restaurant. But you know what we really want, don't you? That's right: sleep.

As unsexy as it sounds (although maybe if we weren't so tired we might want that a little more, too), sleep is the real and reliable way to a mother's heart. And while we're sleeping, why don't you and the kids make something nice?

Pumpkin French Toast

This Pumpkin French Toast is an elegant and nutritious twist on the classic. Pumpkin adds a nice sweetness, while at the same time boosting the nutritional value.

It's easy enough for small kids to help with or older kids to run with on their own. Plus, tinned puréed pumpkin can be found in stores all year round.

Honestly, the predictable let's-go-out days like Valentine's Day or Mother's Day are better avoided. Restaurants are over-crowded and the service is harried. So much more relaxing to have a nice brunch at home. Or better yet, why not breakfast in bed? Because we'll be sleeping, remember?

Ingredients:

- 4 pieces of multigrain, spelt or another ancient grain bread
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) butter
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) pumpkin puree
- 4 eggs
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) 1% milk
- 1 tsp (5 ml) agave nectar
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ground cin-
- Pinch ground nutmeg

Preparation:

- Cut bread into four small squares; set aside.
- In skillet melt 1 tbsp (15 mL) of the butter over medium heat.
- In bowl, whisk together pumpkin puree, eaas, milk and agave. Whisk in cinnamon and nutmeg. Sink each piece of bread in the egg mixture, making sure to coat both sides well.
- Add egg-soaked bread piece by piece into warm skillet. Cook for 3 minutes and then flip. Cook another 2 minutes or until golden. Add remaining butter to the pan and cook remaining pieces of bread. Stack and serve warm with agave. Makes 4 servings. SWEET POTATO CHRONICLES (SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES. COM/WORDPRESS)



Try a Mimosa or Kir Royale with brunch



Since Mother's Day is this weekend. I bet many of you (especially the guys) will be cracking a few eggs in honour of that special woman in your life.

When it comes to liguids, brunch is like the mid-day equivalent of a big holiday meal: You've got all kinds of different flavours trying to make nice on one plate.

Off-dry white wines, light, fruitier red wines, dry rosés and, of course,

sparkling wines are all great fallback bottles. Mv mom

> loves a champagne flute of Mimosa. mixology isn't thing, 50/50 blend of orange juice

and dry bubbly (pick an inexpensive Spanish Cava) is impossible to flub.

Or try a Kir Royale. Originating in the French Burgundian town of Dijon, it's made by adding a teaspoon of crème de cassis - the region's famous blackcurrant liqueur — to a glass of bubbles.

While a variety of cassis brands are carried across the country, Védrenne's Supercassis (\$20.25) is a benchmark for the style.



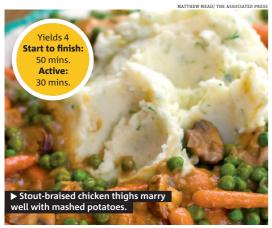


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Chicken and beer in one dish — why not?



This recipe for stout-braised chicken thighs, combines two techniques: flash browning and a quick, low-heat braise. By switching around the sauce ingredients you can turn this method of cooking thighs into an endless variety of dishes.

Here, the recipe calls for 175 ml (3/4 cup) of a stout beer such as Guinness (you can drink the rest while the thighs are braising), and just a single strip of chopped bacon to make a smoky, malty sauce that's nicely balanced by the sweetness of peas, carrots and onions, plus the earthof mushrooms.

Preparation:

- In a shallow dish, combine 50 ml of flour with 2 ml each of salt and pepper. Dredge chicken thighs in flour mixture to coat completely, then set on a plate.
- In 30-cm (12-inch) nonstick skillet over medium-high, heat olive oil. Add chicken and cook until browned, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Set aside on a clean dish.
- Add bacon to skillet and cook, stirring often, for 2 minutes. Add onion, carrots and mushrooms and sauté until vegeta-

bles begin to brown, about 4 minutes. Sprinkle remaining flour over vegetables and cook for another 2 minutes.

- Add stout and broth to pan and bring to a boil, using a wooden spoon to scrape up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Return thighs to pan, nestling them among vegetables. Reduce heat until liquid is gently simmering, then cover and cook for 15 minutes.
- Add neas and cook, covered, for 5 minutes. Uncover pan and simmer for 5 minutes more. Season with salt and pepper and serve with vegetables and sauce. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) plus 45 ml
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) black
- 625 g (1 1/4 lb) boneless, skinless chicken thiahs.
- olive oil
- 1 slice bacon, finely
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 125 g (4 oz) button cremini
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) stout,
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) frozen baby peas



- (3 tbsp) all-purpose flour, di-
- pepper, plus more to taste
- trimmed of excess fat • 10 ml (2 tsp) extra-virgin
- chopped
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) baby car-
- mushrooms, halved
- such as Guinness
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) reducedsodium chicken broth







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Canoe and kayak trials descending on Dartmouth

Lake Banook is ready to host Canada's top canoe-kayak athletes this weekend.

Due to low water levels in Montreal's Olympic Basin, the Dartmouth venue has taken over as host for the national sprint canoe-kayak team trials. The trials, running Saturday and Sunday, determine which athletes will represent Canada at World Cup events in Europe next month.

"I'm happy to report things are going well," said Rick Fair, chairman of the host committee. "Knock on wood, no glitches so far. The course is in, we're putting the starting system in the water ... the rain looks like it's going to disappear ... so things are falling into place."

Olympians, including Dartmouth's Ben Russell, Halifax's Richard Dalton, and Middle Sackville's Jillian D' Alessio, will be competing. MATTHEW WUEST

QMJHL PRESIDENT'S CUP

Sea Dogs take opener

Simon Despres scored the eventual winner 12:17 into the third period as the Saint John Sea Dogs edged the Gatineau Olympiques 2-1 in Game 1 of the QMJHI. President's Cup final Thursday night.

Danick Gauthier also scored for the Sea Dogs, who led 1-0 after the first period before surrendering a second-period goal to Hubert Labrie that tied the game.

Saint John netminder Jacob DeSerres made 22 saves. His counterpart, Gatineau goalie Maxime Clermont, had 35 saves.

Game 2 of the championship series goes Saturday, again in Saint John.

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Huskies' top dog gets chance to impress

▶ Taylor to hit field at East-West Bowl on Saturday ▶ Top 2012 draft prospects on display in London, Ont.



Canadian Football League scouts will get a first-hand look at Jahmeek Taylor's game-breaking ability this weekend.

The Saint Mary's Huskies highlight-reel slotback/returner will compete in Canadian Interuniversity Sport's East-West Bowl in London, Ont., on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Taylor was Atlantic University Sport's MVP last year after piling up 1,439 all-purpose yards and seven touchdowns in eight games.

"They're going to see how dynamic he is as a re"A ton of these guys get drafted out of their appearance in the East-West Bowl."

HUSKIES COACH STEVE SUMARAH

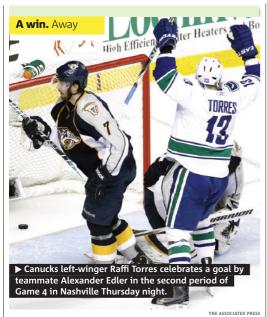
turner," said Huskies head coach Steve Sumarah. "He's coming off a hip flexor injury so he'll be dealing with some discomfort, but the bottom line is when he's going, he makes a big impact on the game."

Players competing in the East-West Bowl are eligible for the 2012 CFL draft.

Huskies defensive linemen Carson Dowds and Rob Jubenville will also suit up for the game.







Canucks in driver's seat

Ryan Kesler broke a tie with a power-play goal at 7:28 of the third period, and the Vancouver Canucks beat the Nashville Predators 4-2 on Thursday night to take a 3-1 lead in their Western Conference semifinal series. The Canucks can close out the series Saturday night in Vancouver.

Grassroots sport takes hit

FIELD OF PLAY

SCOTT RUSSELL HALIFAX@METRONEWS.CA



The election of Elizabeth May in the riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands the other

night was a victory for the Green party, but it was also a loss for amateur sport.

While May will bring a strong voice to the House of Commons on issues surrounding the environment, the man she defeated, Gary Lunn, minister of state (sport), will be greatly missed by those who envision a fitter, more physically aware Canada.

During his tenure, Lunn ensured stable and ongoing funding for the Own the Podium program, which delivered so much to the national landscape during the Vancouver 2010 Olympics.

"Gary grasped the opportunity the 2010 Games presented Canada to use sport as a vehicle to unite the country around the values we hold so close to our hearts," said Chris Rudge, past CEO/secretary general of the Canadian Olympic Committee.

But it was more than cheerleading that allowed Lunn to succeed at his job. He was committed to making Canada a major player in the arena of international sport.

During Lunn's three years in the post, Canada won the right to host the Pan American Games, the FIFA Women's World Cup and also re-energized its role in the Commonwealth Sports Federation.

"He saw that an investment in high-performance



sport, not just for the Olympic Games, but also as a legacy of the Games, would pay dividends far beyond exceptional performance on the field of play," said Rudge.

Lunn helped keep sport on the national agenda and in the public consciousness.

It was refreshing to see his enthusiasm as he travelled the country, and indeed the world, in order to trumpet the message of sport and how it could make Canadians more competitive, perhaps even prouder to wear the Maple Leaf. You would run into him at Lake Louise, Alta., for World Cup skiing or in Kingston, Ont., at a university basketball game. Lunn always applauded the role sport plays in the country's heritage.

"This is a great loss for the country. I feel certain of this," said Kelly Murumets, president and CEO of ParticipAction, a national non-profit organization that promotes healthy living and physical fitness in Canada.

"Gary genuinely cared about sport, about physical activity, about competition (at grassroots and elite levels), about Canadians."

Unlike some of those who preceded him in the sport portfolio, you get the impression Lunn actually wanted to be there.

Now he's gone and amateur sport is faced with plugging a huge hole in the lineup.

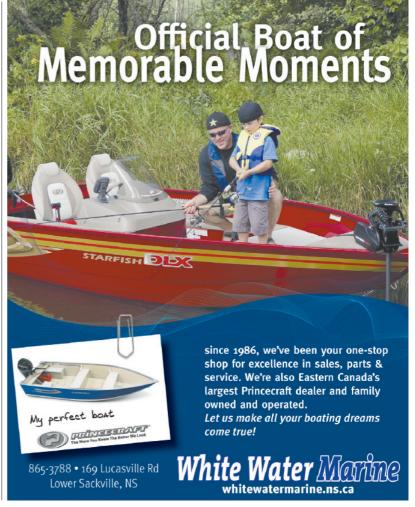


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Crossword

Across

- 1 Mahal 4 Parisian pals
- 8 Choose from a group

12

15

20 21

24

29

32

41

46

49

- 12 Fuss
- 13 Color quality
- 14 On the briny
- 15 Old communication method
- 17 Bit of bante
- 18 Comestibles
- 19 Stallion or mare
- 20 Malaria symptoms
- 22 Transaction
- 24 Tranquil 25 Pollen-caused al-
- lergy 29 Under the weather
- 30 Cupid's yokemate
- 31 Is for you? 32 Short-term employ-
- ment 34 Schleps
- 35 Shakespeare's river
- 36 Cockpit VIP
- 37 Steeple
- 40 Regimen
- 41 Lumber 42 Spring parade
- leader
- 46 Initial stake 47 Birthright barterer
- 48 Old studio letters
- 49 Paraphernalia 50 Sommelier's offer-
- ina 51 Stitch

Down

- 1 Noisy dance
- 3 With glee
- 4 Friend of D'Artagnan
- 5 Disposition
- 2 Oklahoma city

 - 25 Vagrant

7 Get a glimpse of 8 Wheedle

6 Hostel

38

- 9 Addict 10 Not so much
- 11 Tardy 16 Verse
- 19 Weapon's handle
- 20 Alkali neutralizer 21 Festive
- 22 Pythias' pal 23 Watchful one
- 26 Some track-and-field

22 23

25

42 43

47

50

- 27 Therefore 28 Take a break
- 30 Bear lair 33 Pantry

13

30

16

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35

18

- 34 Stead 36 Resentment
- 37 Booty
- 38 Corn concoction 39 Tittle
- 40 Actress Cannon
- 42 Kitten's call 43 "— was saying, ..."
- 44 Scratch (out) 45 Promptly

➤ Yesterday's answer

M	Α	R	C		F	В	1		Α	F	Α	R
U	Т	Α	Н		L	0	S		S	1	Т	Е
M	1	Ν	1		Е	Α	R		S	L	Ε	D
S	Т	T	F	L	Е		Α	В	Е	L		
			F	Α	Т	Н	Е	R	T	1	Μ	Е
В	Е	В	0	Р		Α	L	Α		Ρ	0	L
R	U	1	Ν		U	Ζ	1		S	Ε	R	Α
Τ	R	Α		0	Ν	Ε		0	L	D	Е	Ν
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		Н	Α	R	Е		1	D	I	0	С	Υ
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Р	U	Ν	Υ		Υ	0	D		Т	0	Р	1

Sudoku

10 11

28

44 45

14

17

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36

26

48

						_		
1		8		4	5			7
	5		8					9
	7		2				8	
7							1	
		6	4		3	8		
	9							6
	8				7		5	
4					9		6	
2			5	8		3		

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Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	8	5	9	6		3	1	2
6	3	1	4	2	5	7	9	8
2	9	7	1	8	3	6	5	4
9	5	6	2	7	8	1	4	3
3	1	2	6	4	9	8	7	5
8	7	4	3	5	1	9	2	6
1	4	3	8	9	2	5	6	7
7	2	9	5	3	6	4	8	1
5	6	8	7	1	4	2	3	9

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Today's horoscope

↑ Aries March 21-April 20

Jupiter in your sign makes you want everything to be perfect but, of course, nothing ever is ¥ Taurus April 21-May 21 You will be in just the right place at

just the right time today II **Gemini** May 22-June 21 Nothing in life ever comes for

free. Bear that thought in mind today you won't go far wrong. Gancer June 22-July 22 Steer clear of power struggles and

office politics today. Leo July 23-Aug.23 If someone

gives you a hard time today it is most likely because they want to provoke you.

MP Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You may wonder if you really deserve all the good things that are coming your way. Of course you do: you earn everything you

← Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Stay calm, be positive and act as if you have already won.

M Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Don't compare yourself to other people

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

₹ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Don't keep your suspicions to yourself: if facts and figures

don't add up find out why. り Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Emotions will be running high today. Let is pass in peace.

Áquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Focus on tasks that are enjoyable and do not require much effort

H Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Anything you do on impulse is

likely to backfire SALLY BROMPTON







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